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FROM: USAIRA TAIPEI

TO : CSAF WASH DC FOR: AFCIN

INFO: USAIRLO HONG KONG BCC

NR : C-314 250330Z Aug 58

Reference project A-2622. Photo Recon of 23 August showed approximately 125 Junks and Sampons in Amoy harbor area. On 24 August photo showed approximately 380. CAF comments that this fact alone is not unusual in view of fishing schedules; however it could be significant in light of Kinmen shelling. At 24/1000Z 4 Chicom gun boats and 6 landing craft attempted attack GRC Tung Ting Island (15 miles south Big Kinmen) but were repulsed by GRC naval patrol. Tung Ting is very small Island held by approximately 64 GRC troops. At 24/0835Z 8 MIGs dropped 8 bombs (estimated to be 500 pound bombs) on western beaches Kinmen. At 24/0920Z Kinmen reported receiving heavy artillery fire until 24/1108Z, estimated approximately 36,000 rounds. At 24/1208Z Chinat LST, Kinmen supply ship, received torpedo hit in stern approximately 17 miles south south east Kinmen by Chicom torpedo boat. LST being towed back to Makung by Chinat LSM. At 24/2245Z Kinmen again receiving heavy artillery bombardment. Casuality list of 23 August artillery bombardment being gradually revised upward. Now reported total casualties at 237. All above information from D/I CAF.

Comment: Press continues to report that Chicom actions are prelude to invasion of Kinmen. Chicom apparently pressing very hard to provoke CAF action against coastal airfields or testing to see how far thay can go. So far CAF are not inclined to be suckered into a foolish move but tension is mounting.

NOTE : Advance copy delivered to CIN.

ACTION: CIN
ADDED DISTR: ARMY, NAVY, STATE, CIA, OSD(SDLU), NSA, OSD, JCS
INFO : OCP, XPD

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